and contractors for supply of armaments which are manufactured in this Ordnance factory also;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to maintain quality, credibility and secrecy of the armaments and to check its adverse effect on the future of the employees of this Factory?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No complete armament is manufactured in the Ordnance factory, Kanpur. Only assemblies/components used in the manufacture of armaments and various types of ammunition hardware are manufactured in that factory.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Does not arise.

[*English*]

Job Reservation to Fishermen in Visakhapatnam Port Trust

4931. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the job reservation facility to fishermen in Visakhapatnam Port Trust; and

(b) if so, tne details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Trade Between India and France

4932. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to increase the trade between India and France;

(b) whether the Government have also identified various sectors for increasing Indo–French collaboration and attracting French investments in India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) Steps taken to increase the trade between India and France include (i) regular bilateral discussions at official and Ministerial level, exchange of trade and industry delegations, and (ii) participation in trade fairs, exhibitions, seminars, training programmes and buyer–seller meets.

(b) and (c). Some possible areas identified for increased French investment in India are computer software, food processing, telecommunications, pollution control, chemicals, solar energy, etc.

Shipping Tonnage for Inter–port Movement of Cargo

4933. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:
SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the shipping tonnage available in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to enhance the shipping tonnage for inter–port movement of cargo; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 414 vessels of 9.65 Million Dead Weight Tonnage (DWT), both Coastal and Overseas, as on 30.11.1991.

(b) and (c). There is no specific proposal to enhance the shipping tonnage for inter–port movement of cargo. However, requests for acquisition of such vessels are considered by Government as and when these are received.

Acquisition of New Ships

4934. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minster of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the acquisition of new ships by the shipping industry has suffered a set back in the past few years due to non–availability of foreign exchange;

(b) if so, whether non–availability of Indian ships has resulted in increased dependence on foreign flag ships for transportation of cargo there by enlarging the outflow of foreign exchange; and

(c) if so, the amount of expenditure being incurred by the Government currently (in foreign exchange) on account of freight charges being paid to foreign shipping lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The reduced availability of free foreign exchange during 1990–91 and 1991–92 has been a significant factor in slowing down the acquisition of ships by Indian shipping industry.

(b) The precise impact is not yet apparent.

(c) The amount of expenditure incurred by Government in foreign exchange cannot be precisely assessed. However, the share of Indian lines in India's overseas trade during 1990–91 has been provisionally assessed at 35.6% and the balance cargo is moving by foreign lines for which the freight is being paid in foreign exchange.

Single Window Facility in Banks for Non–Resident Indians

4935. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the names of the banks which have opened centres for Non–resident Indian to provide single window facilities for services like management of accounts, investment and portfolio management, taxation advice and counselling

(b) the location of such bank branches where such centres have been set up; and

(c) the response fo NRIs thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that so far only State Bank of India has opened centres at Bombay and New Delhi for this purpose.

(c) According to RBI, no information is available in this regard.

International Container Handling Terminal at Vypeen

4936. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minster of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken